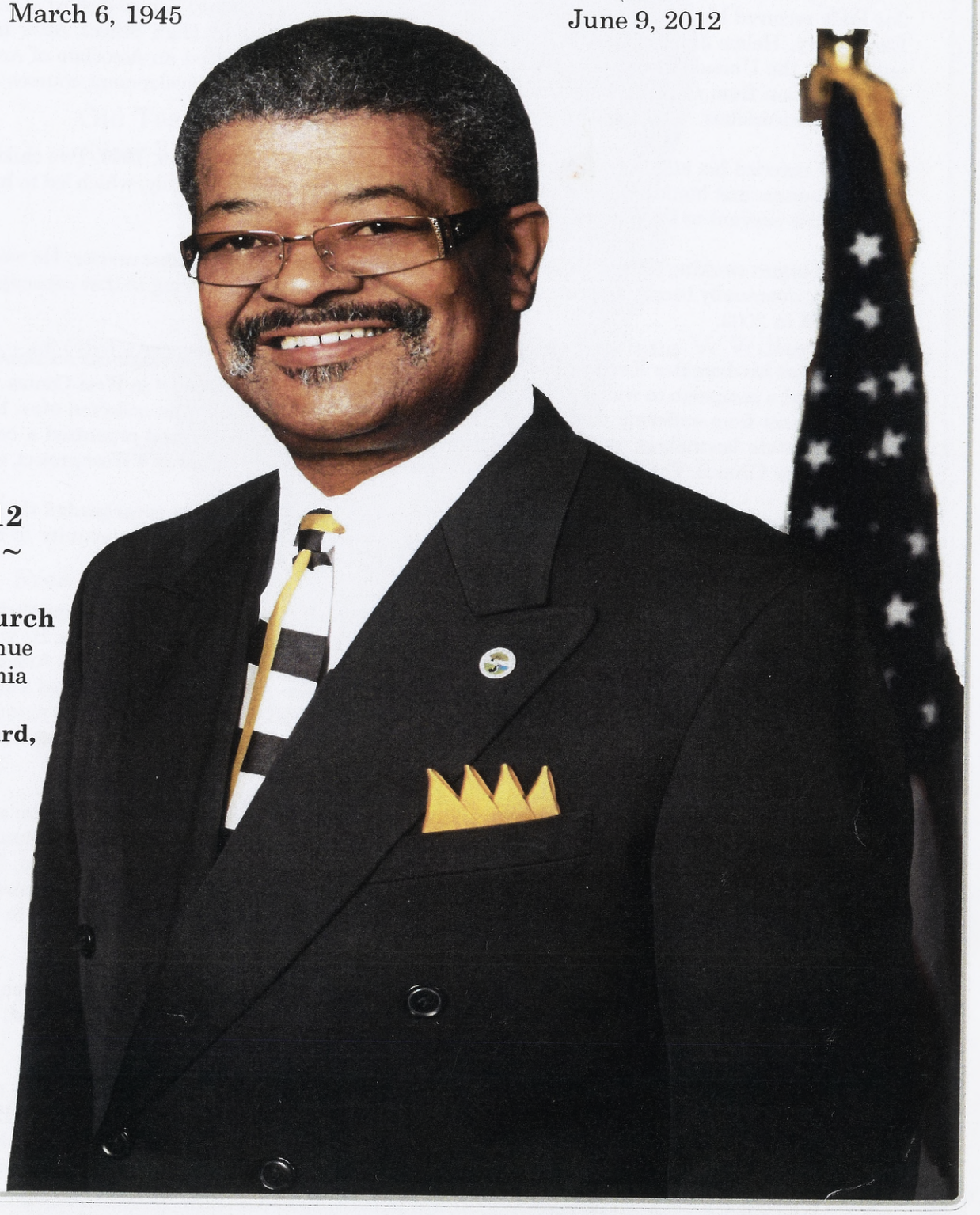
Celebrating the Life of

Joe Eddy McDonald

Sunrise
March 6, 1945

Sunset
June 9, 2012



Services Held
Tuesday,
June 19, 2012
~ 11:00 a.m. ~

Valley Bible Church
1477 Willow Avemue
Hercules, California

Dr. Phillip Howard,
Senior Pastor
Officiant

Joe Eddy McDonald

1945 – 2012

Joe Eddy McDonald was born March 6, 1945, in Lewisville, Arkansas to the late Jesse and Geraldine McDonald. Joe Eddy was the sixth born of twelve children. The McDonald family moved to Richmond, California in 1950.

Joe Eddy and his family were charter members of the True Fellowship Baptist Church, where he served as Chairman of the Trustee Ministry under the leadership of Rev. Robert K. Gordon. They later became members at Valley Bible Church under the pastorage of Dr. Phillip Howard.

Joe Eddy received his primary education in the West Contra Costa County School district where he attended Verde Elementary, Helms Junior High, and graduated from Richmond Union High School. After high school, Joe Eddy enlisted in the United States Navy for a two-year tour of duty. He earned an Associate of Arts degree in business administration from Contra Costa College and completed professional development courses offered by Duke and Harvard universities.

Joe Eddy married his high school sweetheart, Mary Ann Rollins, on October 9, 1966. Two children were born to this union: Kimaree and Meiko. He was a passionate father, committed to his family; which led to his future commitment as a humble servant to his community.

Joe Eddy began working for the United States Postal Service in 1966 as a letter carrier. He worked his way through the ranks, eventually becoming postmaster of Rodeo and Hercules and serving in that capacity for 19 years until his retirement in 2002.

Joe Eddy lost his daughter Kimaree McDonald and niece Tiffane Spencer in a tragic car accident in October 1994. This spearheaded a campaign to widen and divide the two-lane stretch of Highway 4 in West Contra Costa County. Vowing to keep others from suffering the same tragic fate, Joe Eddy and Mary Ann collected over 10,000 signatures on a petition to state lawmakers, made presentations to government agencies, and organized a community walk to the Hercules City Council. The McDonald's advocacy led to the $86 million Highway 4 West project, which added two lanes.

Joe Eddy was past president of the Rodeo and Hercules Rotary clubs. He spearheaded the Rotary Club's annual pancake breakfast fundraiser, which offered small business the marketing opportunity to display their business cards on the breakfast placemats.

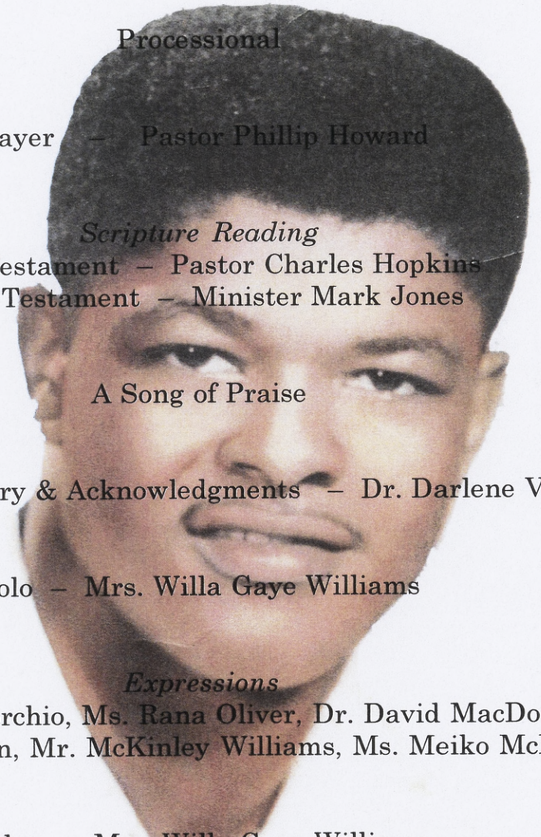
Joe Eddy served as Area II Director Chapter IV of National Association of the Postmasters of the United States (NAPUS). He was past master of Monarch Lodge No. 73 FMA for the State of California. He was a founding member of Black American Political Action Committee (BAPAC). He was a member of the Black American Cultural Association, and a charter member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Hercules chapter. He served on the Library Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee and the City of Hercules planning commission from December 2002 to November 2006, the last 2½ years as chairman. In 2006, Joe Eddy successfully campaigned to serve on the Hercules City Council, serving as Vice Mayor in 2008 and as Mayor in 2009.

During his tenure as a city official, Joe Eddy served as a dedicated and effective member on many regional committees: Pinole/Hercules Wastewater Management JPA, West County Integrated Waste Management JPA, Contra Costa Mayors Conference and the Association of Bay Area Governments Executive Board. He was responsible for the approved agreement with the WCCUSD to retain the music program in Hercules Elementary schools and with Contra Costa College to provide classes in the Redevelopment Project Area. Joe Eddy is to be commended for his years of service to the residents of Hercules.

On Saturday, June 9, 2012, Joe Eddy's earthly journey was complete. He was preceded in death by his parents Jesse and Geraldine McDonald, daughter Kimaree McDonald; four brothers: Jessie Dean, Alfred, Rudolph, and Richard Lee McDonald; two sisters: LaVada and Jeanette; and grandmother Alice Boyd.

Joe Eddy led a life of extraordinary courage and strength. He leaves his legacy of love to his wife, Mary Ann McDonald, daughter Meiko McDonald; granddaughter Kimaree McDonald Solomon all of Hercules; four brothers: John Wesley, Charles Edward (Aquilla), Freddie Ray (Evelyn), and Steven Paul McDonald (Mpheza); one sister Yvonne Marie McDonald, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives and dear friends.

Order of Service



Processional

Prayer – Pastor Phillip Howard

Scripture Reading
Old Testament – Pastor Charles Hopkins
New Testament – Minister Mark Jones

A Song of Praise

Reading of Obituary & Acknowledgments – Dr. Darlene V. Willis

Solo – Mrs. Willa Gaye Williams

Expressions
Mr. Fred Deltorchio, Ms. Rana Oliver, Dr. David MacDonald,
Mr. Walter Griffin, Mr. McKinley Williams, Ms. Meiko McDonald

Solo – Mrs. Willa Gaye Williams

Words of Comfort – Brother Joe L. Fisher

Recessional

Internment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park

4100 Hilltop Mall Road • Richmond, California

"Special thanks" to Mrs. Willa Gaye Williams.



'To my Soulmate – Joe Eddy'

A good man is hard to find, a timeworn phrase, but true.
That's why I feel so fortunate, the man I found was you.
For you had all the qualities that set a man apart,
qualities that I've admired since I gave you my heart!
Witty humor, honesty, kindness, generosity and
going beyond mere words to show your love for me.
Everyday you made me grateful with your friendship
and laughter, every night you made me sure
I found my "happy-ever-after".
I must have made a wish one night on
Heaven's brightest star to have found the
perfect man for me because that's what you are!

Forever in my heart,
MaryAnn

Honorary Pallbearers

Robert Clinton, Sr.
Warren Spencer
Mark Jones
Michael Thompson
Chenga McDonald
Montel Tolliver

Honorary Pallbearers

Steve McDonald
John Wesley McDonald
Booker Baker
Clarence Williams
Freddie McDonald
Donnie Rollins
Leslie Thompson
Ronald Baker, Sr.
Charles McDonald
Earvie Rollins
Brent Tolliver
Walter P. Griffin

Acknowledgments

The family extends a warm and loving thanks to all of you
who have been instrumental in helping us through this difficult time.
Please know your kindness and generosity has been a great comfort.
Please continue to pray for our strength and may God continue to bless each of you.



Final Arrangements Entrusted to:

Wilson & Kratzer Funeral Service

455 – 24th Street • Richmond, California • 510-232-4383